

Subject Evaluation Policies & Procedures for Academic Year 2020-21

Overview

Due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Academic Policy and Regulations Team, in consultation with the Teaching and Learning Lab and the Registrar's Office, determined that a modified version of the Institute subject evaluation form would be used during academic year 2020-21.

TAs and other non-primary instructors were evaluated. Departments selected which subjects and instructors were evaluated. Student participation was voluntary.

Each report contains a “context statement” regarding the pandemic-related disruption, and instructors had the opportunity to add an additional statement detailing any specific impacts on the content and format of their subject.

Evaluation Questions

Surveys during the 2020-21 academic year included the following sets of questions:

Instructor Questions — Three questions on the quality of teaching using a standard 7-point Likert scale followed by an opportunity for open-ended comments on teaching.

Subject Questions — Seven questions on the overall learning experience using a standard 7-point Likert scale followed by an opportunity for open-comments comments on the subject.

(New) Aspects of Learning — Likert-based and open-ended questions that allow students to report on aspects of the class introduced to accommodate remote learning under the conditions of the Covid-19 pandemic.

(Optional) Additional Questions — Likert-based and open-ended questions provided to Instructors to include at their discretion, focused on the overall remote subject experience and sense of community.

Evaluation Reports

Each subject evaluation report generated during the 2020-21 academic year contains the following context statement:

“Due to pandemic-related disruptions in academic year 2020-21, many instructors have had to modify the scope and content of the subject, the means of delivery, the grading and assessment scheme, and other aspects of their subjects. In future versions of the subject many of these modifications may or may not be retained. These evaluation data specifically reflect feedback on a version taught during a disrupted term.”

In addition, instructors had the option of adding an additional statement to express how the pandemic may have impacted the content and format of their subject in particular.